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MEDICINE CHESTS

OF ALL KINDS,

WITH

DIRECTIONS

SUITABLE TO THEIR CONTENTS,

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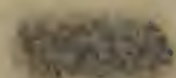
Composed of Medicines of the best quality,
and sold at a low price.



B O S T O N :

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DIRECTIONS, &c.

TINCTURE of *Bark* is serviceable in all cases of debility, especially when a person is on the recovery from a fever, dysentery, &c.—dose from one to three teaspoonfuls in a glass of wine, spirit or water, three or four times in a day.

Stoughton's Elixir—One or two teaspoonfuls of this in a glass of wine or water is a good bitter—may be taken at any time of day, in loss of appetite, indigestion and weak stomach.

Castor Oil—Good in the dysentery—cholic, &c.—dose, two large spoonfuls either alone, or mixed with an equal quantity of

Elixir Salutis—Which is also good for cold windy disorders of the bowels, and is a good purge for the Rheumatism—dose by itself from two to four large spoonfuls.

Spirit of Nitre—Moderates fevers which are accompanied by great heat and thirst—is cooling for the scalding of urine in the venereal disease—give a teaspoonful every three hours, in a cup of cold water.

Tartar Emetic—Directions for this are usually wrapped round each dose—if they are not, dissolve six grains in three large spoonfuls of water—give one spoonful every half hour until it operates, and drink a

draught of warm water after each operation—it is proper in sickness of the stomach, and in pain of the head proceeding from a foul stomach. By being taken in the first attack of these complaints, it will often prevent a fever; but if a pain in the side or difficulty of breathing attends them, the person should lose half a pint or three jills of blood, before he takes the emetic. If it should work very violently, or a great many times, let a teaspoonful of common salt be dissolved in a cup of cold water, and drank every ten minutes, until it abates. When copious discharges from the bowels do not follow the operation of a puke, give a dose of *Salts* the next day. Sometimes a person will have distressing pain in the stomach, or cramp, after an emetic has worked; in which case you must give 20 drops of *laudanum* every half hour till he is easy.

Essence of Peppermint—Is useful in cholics attended with wind—after eating or drinking too much—seasickness, &c. drop fifteen or twenty drops on sugar, and dissolve it in a cup of hot water for a dose—repeat it often if occasion requires.

Basilicon is useful for wounds, where is a loss of flesh—for ulcers and old sores—spread it thin on lint, rag, or tow, and apply it once in a day.

Turner's Cerate, heals blisters, burns, scalds, and slight sores on the legs—and is a proper dressing for gunshot wounds—spread it thin on fine rag, and dress once or twice a day.

Mercurial Ointment—Kills crabs and lice, rub on the infested parts a piece as large as a nut every night—the *itch* will often yield to this, if you rub the parts which are broken out with it, for two or three nights.



Rhubarb—One heaped teaspoonful in a little water will purge off the contents of the bowels, and thereby cure fluxes, and other disorders which proceed from a bad state of them.

Pills—To prevent costiveness, which by retaining the contents of the bowels too long, is the cause of many diseases. In hot climates they are particularly useful—one, two, or more, may be taken at bed time when there has been no discharge from the bowels during the day; observing to regulate the number of the pills, so as to cause one copious evacuation every twenty-four hours.

Elixir Vitriol—Make a glass of water agreeably sour with this, and take it half an hour before eating, when the digestion is bad, or the appetite vitiated—The same dose taken three times in a day is of use in preventing and curing the scurvy—also in such fevers as produce a nauseous putrid taste in the mouth.

Opodeldoc—Rub a spoonful of this into any part that is strained, bruised or in pain from any cause either internal or external, every night and morning—it will allay the inflammation of a fresh burn or scald, by applying a rag wet with it frequently.

Liquid Laudanum—Will ease pain and procure rest; moderate the too violent operations of Emetics and purgatives—should always be given after the working of them in dysentery and flux—dose, thirty drops at bed time in water.

Observe not to give this unless the bowels have been discharged either naturally or by means of physic in the course of the day.

Snake Root—Make a tea with this as you would with common tea, and let a teacupful be frequently drank in fevers attended with low spirits, black tongue or other putrid appearances, and in the fever and ague.

Balsam—For cuts and small wounds—wet a piece of lint with it, and bind it on—keep it upon the part until it will come off without force—it is also a good medicine taken inwardly, for coughs, consumptions, and internal pains—half a teaspoonful on sugar, or in water may be taken three or four times in a day.

Mercurial Solution—See *Venereal Disease*.

Salts—Are cooling physic, and an useful common purge for most cases in which purges are necessary.—

Lancet for bleeding—When you wish to bleed a person—strip the arm in a fair light, tie a garter or narrow bandage tight above the elbow—pass the lancet carefully into the largest vein which rises on the inside of the elbow joint, taking care not to go very deep—when you have drawn three or four jills of blood, untie the bandage, and lay a piece of linen doubled three or four times, and dipp'd in cold water, over the incision, and tie the bandage over it tight enough to prevent the blood flowing, but not so tight as to excite pain. *Bleeding* is proper after a bad fall, violent blows, especially on the head and breast, in fevers which are attended with throbbing pains in the head, or side, great thirst and heat, and spitting of blood—if one bleeding does not procure relief, you may repeat it in twelve hours.

Venereal Disease—Put a table spoonful of the *mercurial solution* into a pint of rum or other spirit, and give one large spoonful of the mixture every night and morning—if the mouth becomes sore after using this medicine for some time, omit it, and give a dose of *Salts* every three or four days, till the soreness has gone off; and then give the mixture again as above directed. If sores break out upon the yard, put a

spoonful of the *mercurial solution* into one jill of fresh water, wash them twice a day with this, and dress them with *mercurial ointment* till they are healed. If a swelling comes in the groin, rub a piece of *mercurial ointment* upon the inside of the thigh, as large as a nut, night and morning, for a week—if it does not disappear in that time, nor lessen; you must boil some biscuit very soft, and poultice it daily till it breaks, or is opened; then dress as above directed for sores on the yard. If the testicles should swell, support them with an handkerchief, take a dose of *Salts*, and at night 30 drops of *Laudanum*—use but little exercise, avoid spiritous liquors, and salt meat—drink freely of tea, and toast and water—if very painful, keep to the bed, and bathe them with spirit—provided the person has a discharge from the bowels in the course of the day, he may take 30 drops of *Laudanum* every night—should the swelling increase notwithstanding the above treatment; you must give an *emetic*, and after its operation 30 drops of *Laudanum*. *Painful erections* are often relieved by rubbing a small piece of *mercurial ointment* on the under part of the yard, and taking a dose of *Laudanum* at night.

Scalding of Urine requires *Nitre* and *Salts* as directed under those articles.

Let care be taken to prevent the skin from contracting either over, or behind the head of the yard, which may be prevented by keeping it clean, and soaking it in warm water.

Observe—During the continuance of either or all of the above symptoms, that the mixture of the *mercurial Solution* and *Spirit* must be continued as first directed, and costiveness prevented by taking *Salts* as occasion may require.

Some Fevers are attended with great heat, thirst, hard full pulse, dry skin, frequent shiverings, sharp pains in the side, back or head—in these you must bleed—give a dose of *Salt—Spirit of Nitre*—drink freely of water—toast and water—weak tea—vinegar and water sweetened, and bathe the feet in warm water frequently.

Other Fevers are accompanied by a weak pulse, slight fits of chill and heat, dull heavy pain in the back—nausea—anxiety. In these you must give an *emetic*—after it has worked, a dose of *Elixir Salutis*—eat fruits if to be had, drink wine—and take a tea-spoonful of *Tincture of Bark* in wine, four times in a day.

In the Dysentery or fluxes, dissolve the contents of a paper, or six grains of *Tartar Emetic* in half a pint of water, and give a table spoonful every two or three hours, (unless it should cause a puking, which is not intended) in which case give only half a spoonful at a time, during the day; drink wine and water, toast and water for common drink; and take a dose of *Elixir Salutis* and *Castor Oil*, every two or three days.

Bad breath, loosened teeth, weakness, &c. indicate the scurvy—the free use of vegetables, fresh while to be had, and pickled when fresh cannot be procured—Vinegar—Spruce Beer—Water in which tar has been well stirred, all conduce to the prevention and cure of this disease.

A sudden Cold requires bathing the feet in hot water, a draught of stiff grog, and warm covering in bed—let the person keep from the cold air in the day, and repeat the above treatment every night, until he is well.

If any one have fits bleed him—give a dose of *Tartar Emetic*, and bathe his feet in hot water.

A bad wound should have lint or tow well filled with flour pressed on closely till the bleeding ceases—then bind it on, and don't remove it, till it will come off without force—should the part swell, or become very painful, cover the dressings which stick, with a poultice of biscuit boil'd very soft, and let it stay on till the next day, when the dressings will come off, and the swelling and pain abate—dress with *Basilicon*.

Bad Strains and Bruises require bleeding, *Salts*, low living and rest.

A Gunshot wound may be suffered to bleed until the patient begins to faint ; removing any bullet, splinter, cloth or bone, which can be done with the fingers ; suffering all which cannot, to remain until they can be easily taken hold of, and removed without force—This nature will assist in doing, in the course of a few days. The first dressing should be of dry lint, or in the case of great bleeding, of lint mixed up with flour (as directed above for a bad wound) over which should be laid a pledget of soft tow or oakum, and the whole kept on with a bandage of cloth or an handkerchief, only sufficiently tight to keep on the other dressings—The patient should take a dose of *Salts* to empty the bowels. He must be kept as easy as possible, and live on the lightest food that can be had, and drink no spirit—The first dressings should be kept on until they become uneasy—They must then be removed with care, and lint dipped in sweet oil, or spread with *Turner's Cerate*, put on, and renewed once a day.

The Fever and Ague—Is known by a violent shivering fit at its first attack, which is succeeded by as violent a hot fit, this remits after an hour or two and finally goes wholly off—the person is well for one, two, three or four days, when the same process goes on again. To cure it, give an *emetic* one hour before you expect the cold fit to come on—after its operation, give thirty drops of *Laudanum* in a cup of *Snake-root* tea, cover up warm in bed, so as to excite a sweat. After the hot fit is over, give as large a quantity of the *Tincture of Bark* as the person can bear, without exciting a tightness across the breast (say from one to six teaspoonfulls) every half hour in the ague, which comes on every day—every fourth hour in that which comes on every third day, and every sixth hour in that which comes on every fourth day—observing, that the last dose be given about one hour and an half before the cold fit is expected to return—omit the *Bark* for so long a time as the cold and hot fits would have continued; and then repeat it, in the same quantity and manner as before, till the disease is removed. If the patient be costive, add a teaspoonful of *Rhubarb* to the first dose of the bark each day—or on the contrary if the bark should be purgative, which will sometimes happen, add ten drops of *Laudanum* to the two first doses each day.

During the cure and after recovery, avoid the damps of evening and morning—if in port never sleep on shore, as the sea air is better than the land air, for persons labouring under this disease—use a generous diet and be well clothed.

Lint—Tow—Corks—Twine—Blue Stone, &c. &c.
will be found in the box.

If the wound swells and becomes painful and the discharge very small, over the above simple dressings may be put a poultice of biscuit, broken up and boiled very soft, and mixed with some oil—extending the poultice over all the swelled or painful part—Repeat doses of *Salts* frequently, and drink freely of toast and water.

Should it on the contrary become flabby, look glassy, discharge a considerable quantity of bloody or watery matter—or should it lose its sensibility, and become black and foul, you must dress it with *Basilicon* on lint, which when spread may be dipped in brandy or rum—Let the patient live more freely, and let him drink a glass of wine several times a day.

In bad cases such as broken bones—balls lodged in the body, or deep in the fleshy parts—limbs carried away, &c. nothing can be done without the help of a Surgeon, more than laying the body and limbs in the easiest posture, and taking care to do no harm.

Poultices, made as above order'd, will give great relief, if applied over the wound very often.

If a gun-shot wound should not bleed freely at first, you must bleed at the arm until the patient is faint.

Broken bones must be replaced as near as can be to the natural situation, and kept so by pieces of thin board, which will reach from one joint to another—and bound on as tight as the person can bear without pain—keep him quiet.

Wounds made with a sharp cutting instrument should have the lips of them pressed close, and be bound up

in such a manner as to keep them together, and had better not be opened till they are healed.

In all complaints of the human body, abstain from salt meat—spirits—violent passion, &c. Let the person be kept clean—have fresh air, and a change of clothing as often as circumstances will admit.

Toast and Water is made by putting about half a sea biscuit into the fire, let it scorch nearly black all over, put it into a quart of fresh water, cover it up for an hour, and it will be fit for use—any quantity of it may be drank—it is agreeable—and may be made more so by being sweetened, and acidulated with lemon juice—vinegar, &c.

The disorders to which men are subject, are so many and so intricate, that it is not possible to lay down directions proper for their treatment, any further than to mitigate the most obvious symptoms, and in some measure to conduce to a cure by assisting nature. It is therefore very seriously recommended to all masters of vessels and supercargoes, whenever they are in a harbour, that they send for a physician or surgeon upon the first attack of any disease, or immediately after an injury happens to any one—that they take advice, so as to employ the most experienced and judicious in their professions—and in a particular manner, that they do not employ ignorant quacks, who are in the habit of visiting foreign vessels—impose on the seamen—and often cost them their lives.



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